

Message Text

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ACTION EA-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 PRS-01 /005 W

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O R 160910Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3424

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

SECDEF WASHDC

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 11216

USINFO ALSO FOR VOA NEWSROOM

USINFO ALSO FOR IEA

BANGKOK FOR HEDGES

BANGKOK AND SAIGON FOR VOA CORRESPONDENTS

STATE S/PRS AND EA/P

CAMBODIAN SITUATIONER

1. MILITARY ACTIVITY ACROSS THE KHMER REPUBLIC MONDAY
CONTINUED AT A RELATIVELY LOW LEVEL AS NO MAJOR INITIATIVES
WERE TAKEN BY EITHER GOVERNMENT OR ANTI-GOVERNMENT FORCES.
FANK REPORTED ENEMY GROUND PROBES THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT
MONDAY AGAINST GOVERNMENT POSITIONS ON ROUTE 26 NORTH OF ROUTE
4 WITH LIGHT FRIENDLY CASUALTIES.

2. IN THE ROUTE 3 AREA SOUTH OF PHNOM PENH, COMMUNIST
PRESSURE AGAINST THE ISOLATED TOWN OF SRANG REMAINED
CONSTANT WHILE SOME INCREASE IN ACTIVITY WAS REPORTED
AGAINST NEARBY TRAM KHNAR WHERE A COMMUNIST ATTACK ON
A POSITION ALONG THE SOUTHERN PERIMETER OF THE TOWN
MONDAY NIGHT WAS CONTAINED BY THE GOVERNMENT DEFENDERS.

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EM COMMUNIST PRESSURE AGAINST TUK LAAK AND SALA LEK PRAM

ON ROUTE 5 NORTH OF PHNOM PENH HAS EASED AS BOTH TOWNS
REPORTED RELATIVE CALM ON MONDAY.

4. FANK REPORTS THAT ENEMY FORCES HAVE OCCUPIED A
POSITION BETWEEN THE KHMER NAVY AND GROUND FORCES CONDUCTING
RESUPPLY MISSIONS FROM THE WEST AND THE TOWN OF VIHEAR SUOR
THUS TEMPORARILY INTERDICTING THE LAND SUPPLY ROUTE TO
THE TOWN.

5. FANK REPORTED NO PROGRESS IN THE ROUTE 2-38 AREA SOUTH
OF PHNOM PENH AS ENEMY GUNNERS SHELLLED FANK THIRD DIVISION
UNITS ALONG THE NORTH BANK OF THE PREK THANOT RIVER.
ELSEWHERE IN THE REPUBLIC, LIGHT AND SCATTERED SHELLINGS
WERE REPORTED AGAINST THE TOWNS OF SIEMREAP ANGKOR,
KOMPONG THOM, SVAY RIENG AND PREK TAMERK ON THE MEKONG
NORTHEAST OF THE CAPITAL.

6. AN 11-SHIP KHMER NAVY CONVOY FROM PHNOM PENH ARRIVED
LATE MONDAY IN KOMPONG CHAM HAVING BEEN ATTACKED THREE TIMES
EN ROUTE BY COMMUNIST SMALL CALIBER FIRE. ONE SAILOR
WAS WOUNDED BUT THERE WAS NO DAMAGE TO ANY OF THE
SHIPS WHICH WERE CARRYING MUNITIONS, RICE, LIVESTOCK AND
TROOPS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFILTRATION, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PHNOM11216
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731029/aaaaavft.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: MOPS, CB
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005